



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 663
HALIFAX NS
B3J 2T3

September 2005 Volume 66 Number 7

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



Are You ready for hurricane season?
2005 is the Year of the Veteran



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

See the HARC Web site at: <http://www.halifax-arc.org>

Our executive and committees.

Position Name & Call Sign	Phone #	E-Mail
President - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	ve1mr@rac.ca
First V.P. - Fraser MacDougall VE1WO	865-4198	ve1wo@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - Darryll Perrin, VE1HUP	826-1439	ve1hup@rac.ca
Secretary - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	dhdickson@hfx.eastlink.ca
Treasurer - John Goodwin, VE1CDD	865-5731	ve1cdd@rac.ca
Member at Large, Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
Club Station Mgr. - Pat Kavanaugh, VE1PHK		ve1phk@rac.ca
Past President - Dick Grantham, VE1AI	434-8046	ve1ai@rac.ca

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Public Relations: Wayne Harasimovitch, VE1WPH	832-3660	ve1wph@rac.ca
IPARN and Brit Fader Memorial QSL Bureau Manager - Bob Burns, VE1VCK	865-9414	ve1vck@rac.ca
EMO Coordinator - Dave George, VE1AJP	466-8723	dgeorge@dal.ca
Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT	865-8567	ve1ent@rac.ca
Reflector Dist. - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
Membership - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081	tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
Web page - Rob Ewert, VE1KS,	826-1705	ewertr@hfx.eastlink.ca
Basic ham course - Scott Wood, VE1QD	823-2761	ve1qd@rac.ca
EMO Trailer Assembly coord - David Musgrave, VE1EDA	435-4333	ve1eda@rac.ca
Flea market 2004 Chair'man - NEEDED		
Field Day coordinator - NEEDED		
RAC Asst Director - Wayne Marchand, VE1WJM,	860-1580	ve1wjm@rac.ca
NSARA Director - Joe MacPherson, VE1CH	852-1295	jmp@hfx.eastlink.ca
Frequency coordinator for Nova Scotia - Bev Reynolds, VE1TL		

Take-15 Net Controllers

NOTE: There have been some changes.

This will be the rotation. If you cannot take the net on your particular evening get in touch with one of the others and trade places with them. If I have left any one off the list, or you want to join, please let Bill, VE1MR, know.



Sept. 18	Charles	VE1MCR
Sept. 25	Chris	VA1CDB
Oct. 2	Herb	VE1HX
Oct. 9	Pierre	VE1PTR
Oct. 16	Tom	VE1GTC
Oct. 23	Win	VE1WIN

FOR SALE

The club has quite a few surplus items for sale. See the list on page 3

FOR SALE

HAM IV rotator in good condition \$350
35 A power supply with 2 meters - \$200
15 A Motorola power supply - \$75
3 A power supply with speaker - \$25
Gerry Currie, VE1ZF - 466-7706

**Deadline for submissions to the
October Reflector is
Saturday, October 8, 2005**

The **General Monthly Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2005 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM), at the former Bloomfield School building (corner of Almon and Agricola streets). The meeting will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room. The evening's speaker - Mark Gulliver from the Tinitus Society. Guests are welcome.

GENERAL INFORMATION



TAKE-15 NET: Sunday evenings at 8:30 PM on VE1PSR/VHF

CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR/VHF - 147.270 MHz +
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -
access tone 151.4 Hz
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz -

PACKET:

VE1NSD 145.050 MHz LAN NODE
VE1BBS - Local packet BBS
accessible through the LAN

Halifax ARISS Discovery Reflector (node # 9010). has its own website www.discoveryreflector.ca
Web master for the site is Brian, VE1NSX

Puzzler- Do You Know?

Charles Babbage is credited with designing the first computer (albeit a mechanical one). What other unrelated invention did he have to his credit?



Answer to puzzler on page 7

Events for Your Calendar

A **Basic Amateur Radio Course** will begin on Thursday, 15 September at the Club station room. Course co-ordinator is Scott Wood, VE1QD.

Sept. 17 & 18 - the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic will be a part a Heritage Festival being hosted by the Waterfront Development Corp.

CSS Acadia will come to life by hosting various activities aboard the ship. The MMA's Derek Harrison has asked HARC to operate from the Acadia during this event.

Sept. 29 – Oct 1; The **International Search and Rescue (SAR) Competition** will be held in Halifax and HARC has been invited to operate a special events station to commemorate the occasion. Using a special call sign, VA1ISAR we will contact Coast Guard Auxiliary stations and other amateurs. We expect to operate from The Canadian Coast Guard base in Dartmouth on Thursday, Friday and from the Maritime Museum in Halifax on Saturday. Club co-ordinators for the special event station are Dick, VE1AI, and Scott, VE1QD.

NOTICE

At the September meeting we will need to elect an Auditor and a Nominating committee chair. Please consider doing one of these important jobs. The Nominating committee chair will probably need some people to help. Be prepared to help your club. Also begin to consider if you would like to be on the executive so when the nominating committee calls you can make their job easier.

Are you up to date with your HARC membership dues?

Yearly rates are as follows:

Full = \$25 Associate = \$15

Family (2 members) = \$35 + \$10 for each additional family member at same address (only 1 newsletter)

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 32 August 19, 2005

RAC TO REPLY TO BPL CONSULTATION PAPER

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) is planning to respond to an Industry Canada (IC) public consultation process that will determine how BPL will be introduced in Canada. The proceeding, spelled out in Canada Gazette Notice SMSE-005-05, dated July 19, will include the development of a new certification standard for medium-voltage power line carrier systems.

"The intent of this consultation paper is to seek comment on the deployment and regulation of BPL systems, including the specific equipment standards and operational requirements which address potential interference to radio services," IC explained.

RAC will reply to the consultation directly to IC and through the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC), an association of Canadian radio spectrum user associations to which RAC belongs. RAC V.P. of Regulatory Affairs Jim Dean, VE3IQ, a member of the RABC Executive, will chair a working group preparing RABC's response. Joe Parkinson, VE3JG, will serve as the working group's RAC delegate.

"RAC is not against BPL," the organization said in a statement. "It is against the interference to radio services created by BPL, and looks forward to this consultation process as an opportunity to have an input into the certification standard." The RAC pledged to "aggressively push to ensure the concerns of the Amateur Service are addressed in the RABC response."

Canadian amateurs are invited to address all comments on questions in the consultation to Joe Parkinson, VE3JG, RAC, 720 Belfast Rd, Suite 217, Ottawa ON K1G 0Z5, ATTN: BPL Team, or via e-mail to ve3jg@rac.ca or jgparkinson@rogers.com. The working group expects to wrap up its work in early November.

RAC will update the process in the "Latest News" section of its Web site <<http://www.rac.ca>>. The consultation paper is available on the IC Web site <<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf08432e.html>>

Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 33 August 26, 2005

This Amateur Radio Awareness Day, September 17, the ARRL will sponsor a 15-hour Emergency Power Operating Event for stations operating off the grid. "It is not a contest," Sumner stresses. "It is simply a demonstration of what we amateurs can do without having to rely on the commercial mains, and what we will do whenever the need arises."

An announcement in September QST (page 49) spells out the details. The event kicks off at 1300 UTC on Saturday, Sept. 17, and ends at 0400 UTC on September 18. The ARRL is inviting home stations to operate from generator or battery power. Mobiles and portable stations also are welcome to participate, although unlike Field Day, the emphasis is not on setting up a temporary station, but rather on operating your regular station on emergency power.

There is no set exchange; contacts may be casual, but operators are encouraged to share information on their emergency power sources in addition to the traditional signal report, name & location.

ARRL Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on the air for the event, running on emergency power from its 60-kW emergency backup diesel generator.

*Whatever hits the fan
will not
be evenly distributed.*

If you want to use the **Club Station** for an activity please reserve your date & time with Station Manager Pat Kavanaugh, VE1PHK E-mail ve1phk@rac.ca

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer is almost over and it was a time of activity for most of us. Field Day went well and our submitted score was **7,200** which is very good for the 2F class and quite good compared to our performance in the 2A class. Several of us went to Whitehead Island for the IOTA contest and had a great time setting up and operating. The pile ups were unusually large, perhaps because we had a special prefix combined with a fairly rare island group. Lack of propagation may have also played a part with 20M being the best band open most of the time. During the contest our group scored nearly 1.5 Million points, very respectable.

The second annual DX forum was a great success, about double last year's attendance. Planning for next year is starting already. Then there was the annual MS Bike Tour which went very well this year with participation by quite a few club members. Lynn and I also helped the Truro ARC with a horse trail event. Of course the summer is not complete without the annual Steak & Salmon dinner that the Lunenburg Club puts on. This is a great social event and meal with Amateurs from many areas of Nova Scotia.

One of the other events of the summer is the Industry Canada decision to drop the Morse Code requirement for access to HF. Any Basic Amateur licensed before April 2 2002 has been grandfathered to HF and any Basic Amateur who made 80% or more after April 1, 2002 is also authorized to operate HF. This means many Basic Amateurs will now be getting on HF and hopefully having a bit of fun even though we are nearly to the bottom of the propagation cycle.

I hope your summer was as exciting as ours and you survived safely.

73 - Bill, VE1MR

FOR SALE

We have a number of surplus items for sale, if **club members** are interested in any of these items please contact Fraser, VE1WO at 865-4198 or ve1wo@rac.ca. Reasonable offers will be considered up until afternoon of Sept 21, 2005.

Most of the following items are complete but untested and unknown condition.

Hammarlund Model SP-600 - rack mount receiver.

2 of RCA CR-91A - rack mount receiver.

2 of EICO Model 720 - Amateur Transmitter.

RCAF Receiver TYPE AR6 - 1 knob missing.

Heathkit Model HG-10 VFO.

World Radio Laboratories Globe Scout Model 40A.

Heathkit Model VF-1 - VFO.

Home brew HF linear amp and power supply we believe the circuit is modeled on the Kenwood TL-922.

National NC300 receiver, working probably need alignment, cleaning.

Heathkit VTVM no model showing.

Heathkit HW-101 - SSB transceiver.

Eddystone Model 830/4 - receiver.

National NC-2-40D - receiver, with matching speaker.

TS-323/UR with case.

40' Delhi heavy duty tower with BBMB thrust bearing - looks like tower sections 8 thru 4 - the bearing is in poor shape.

Hygain TH3 3 element triband beam with balun - 10/15/20 - good condition.

9 el commercially built 2M quad with fiberglass boom and spreaders - good condition.

The club also has other items such as the totally refurbished and tested TH6DX for \$650 and a Dentron Super Tuner Plus Antenna Tuner for \$100.00 as advertised in other Reflectors.

Operating Courtesy

Over this past spring and summer there have been quite a few complaints of poor operating habits. Also with the authorization of many Basic Amateurs to now operate on HF we hope these trends do not make their way to the HF bands. I would suggest **carefully** reading pages 164 and 165 of the 2004 Maritime Provinces Callbook. This article on operating etiquette is just the bare bones but will show up some of the mistakes you may be making. The more experienced operators should also be leading by example, we do not always follow the guidelines we should.

Perhaps if you treat it as you would a social gathering. Don't jump into a conversation without first listening to the topic, have something relevant to add and don't ignore the other people in the round table. If you want to ask something of one person then ask if they can give you a call after they finish the current conversation or topic. Think about what you are doing, perhaps ask yourself if you would do the same in a room full of people, in other words would it be rude in a social gathering.

If you change frequencies with someone, **please listen** before transmitting and also ask, **"is the frequency in use"**. I am sure that if you are speaking with someone on a repeater and a couple of other Amateurs begin a conversation in the middle of yours then you would consider that very rude. Again would you do this in a social gathering. Etiquette is a social grace and while we are not always well versed in all the social graces, most of us were brought up to be polite.

If these poor operating habits continue, then more experienced Amateurs may need to remind or coach the offenders. In the past most of this coaching has been done in person by telephone not over the air, but with the prevalence increasing we may need to do this on the air. This is not to embarrass the other operator but to instruct. Hopefully someone in this situation will accept the coaching without animosity. We do not want to drive any one away from the hobby, but we must protect our hobby from inept operators.....73 - Bill Elliott, VE1MR

APRS

by Rick VE1RGG

There have been many people asking about settings for APRS that I have answered in previous articles so this is a recap for easy reference...

North American is in the process of updating all digipeaters to work with new parameters for the path. The new SSn-n is a state/province designator that matches the official two-letter state/province postal designator (i.e. NS3-3 for Nova Scotia). This new designator can be used as an alternative to using the WideN-N parameter. As each repeater is modified it will beacon with a digipeater symbol using an overlay with the letter "S". The digipeaters within Nova Scotia are all now set to operate with this new parameter. The purpose of this change is to help reduce on-air traffic. The system works by reducing the count with each hop. A Wide3-3 beacon becomes Wide 3-2 then Wide3-1 and so on. This limits the range that a signal will travel.

The following are the preferred paths to use:

Home Stations – use: Wide3-3

Other acceptable paths (select one only!): Wide2-2 NS2-2 NS3-3 NS4-4

Mobile Stations – use Wide1-1, Wide2-2

Other acceptable path: Wide3-3

Other acceptable path for local use: Wide1-1, NS3-3

In both cases you use only WideN-N or NSn-n and not both. Mobiles only can be preceded with Wide1-1 which serves a special purpose and is only helpful in some areas. This is explained in an earlier article. Home stations should never use Wide1-1 or Relay.

The "N" value for WideN-N should not exceed 3 but the "n" for the SSn-n is less restrictive (4, 5 or 6 could be used if necessary). As each digipeater is updated it will allow for

the capping of the N value. That is, if you go to a location where there is a Wide2-2 cap and you beacon with Wide3-3 or greater then your signal will be digipeated only once and there will be a "QRT" flag attached to your signal. You typically only need enough hops to get your signal out on the internet where findu.com can pick it up.

DO NOT USE: Relay, Beacon, CQ, APRS or any other such words in your path statement for home, digipeater, or mobile use. They do not serve any purpose and just clutter the air space.

Beacon Rates:

Home Stations:

every 30 to 60 minutes

Mobile Stations (in motion):

every 2 or 3 minutes

Mobile Stations (fixed): every 15 to 30 minutes (only available with Smart Beaconing)

If you have any questions I will try to help with each individual situation.



The AMSAT-NA Board of Directors has **cancelled** the **2005 AMSAT Symposium** which was scheduled to take place in Lafayette, LA Oct. 7-9. While Hurricane Katrina spared Lafayette, the city is now the home to thousands of evacuees who left the Gulf Coast and are now housed in Lafayette's hotels and other accommodations for the near future. Neither relocating the Symposium to an alternative site nor altering the Symposium dates is viewed as practical.

AMSAT-NA Office Manager Martha Saragovitz will handle refunds for registration fees already collected. Attendees should cancel their Hotel/Motel reservations

The IARU meeting that was scheduled for Sunday morning, October 9 in Lafayette, LA has not been rescheduled.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, #32

CQ kicks off "iDX" Award program next January 1: CQ Amateur Radio magazine's new "iDX Award" program will start for contacts made on or after January 1, 2006. The iDX Award will recognize contacts made using voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) systems. It's the final component of the magazine's "Waking Up DXing" program to encourage more DXing activity. "The iDX Award brings back and updates an old concept of introductory-level awards to help bring newer hams into the sport and mindset of DXing," explained CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU. The CQ iDX Award recognizes confirmed contacts with 25 to 100 different countries--or entities--made using remote bases or repeaters linked with VoIP networks such as IRLP or EchoLink. "Because virtually all new hams today come into Amateur Radio as Technicians operating VHF and UHF, Novice awards have been largely discontinued," Moseson noted. "The iDX Award brings the concept of the Novice award to where newer hams are operating today." CQ DX Awards Manager Billy Williams, N4UF, says the CQ iDX Award "recognizes the changing landscape and its inevitable effect on where Amateur Radio will be in 2020." Contacts must use radio on at least one end of the link to count for the award. Computer-to-computer contacts, while possible on such systems as EchoLink, will not count. Complete details are on the CQ Web site
<<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com>>.-CQ Magazine

The AMSAT-NA BOARD meeting will take place Thursday, Oct. 6 & Friday morning October 7.

The Eagle Team Meeting will be held Friday PM, Saturday Oct. 8 & Sunday morning October 9. AMSAT-NA Annual Meeting will be called to order following the conclusion of the Board of Directors meeting and is open to all AMSAT members.

Always read stuff that will make you look good if you die in the middle of it.



Go to URL <http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/morse.htm>

That link will take one to absolutely everything -- EVERYTHING! --a person would ever want to know about CW, including formats for typical messages, etc. Gary, VE1RGB

Since the early days of wireless (and wire) communications, communicators have continuously sought ways of shortening and speeding up the passage of their non-voice traffic via the use of abbreviations for often-used statements.

"Z-Codes", three letter codes starting with a "Z", are popularly considered to be a military equivalent to Q-Codes, but were originally developed by Cable and Wireless Ltd. for use in the commercial communications business.

The current Q-Code system is the combination of several independent systems developed to satisfy the requirements of many agencies including military and civilian aircraft as well as amateur radio. The use of Q-Codes not only speeds up traffic but cuts through language barriers. As a result you may discover two or more Q Codes that have very similar meanings, but each one is used by a different agency.

When guys like Dave, VE1NN, and I were Radio Officers on the Argus, we used a number of CW Q-Codes reserved for military use that we don't see in normal application in amateur radio. Recently, also, I have been playing around with CW nets and there are a number of Q-Codes in use there which are very handy, but one doesn't ordinarily encounter them. I have often wondered what makes up the complete list of Q-codes.

For anyone interested in a trip down Q-Code memory lane and/or who want to see the extensive list of Q-codes that have been developed over the years (e.g., QBF - Are you flying in cloud?!), see below:

<http://homepages.tesco.net/~a.wadsworth/Qcode.htm>

Naturally, I would not recommend the use of obscure Q-codes in a typical amateur CW QSO. That would only lead to confusion on the other end or, worse, the use of some equally obscure dits and dahs back to you that will leave you sheepishly mumbling. The situation is analogous to the humiliation that can occur from calling CQ at 35 WPM when you only copy 20. So...care should be taken to ensure you use the codes appropriate to your area of communications, although you would not be the first operator to employ off-the-wall Q-codes in order to stymie your friends!

I found this list when I was trying to determine the exact meaning of the procedural signal "SN" which one often hears from Europeans at the start of any given transmission in the middle of a QSO. [It means "Understood" and, in my opinion, is much more appropriate than the over-used/incorrectly-used Q-code "QSL".] The answer to my query was found on the first hit by typing "didididahdit" into Google. Ain't it a wonderful tool!

Gary, VE1RGB

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 31, Aug. 12/05

To celebrate the 80th anniversary of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications, those placing advance orders for the 2006 edition will receive a reproduction of the very first edition of The Radio Amateur's Handbook, published in 1926. Authored by the late ARRL Communications Manager Francis Edward "Ed" Handy, W1BDI, this 224-page volume is a facsimile of the Handy's signed, personal copy and even includes some of his handwritten notes. This offer is available until Sept. 30/05, or while supplies last (only directly from ARRL and select ARRL publication dealers). The 2006 Handbook comes with The ARRL Handbook on CD-ROM (v. 10.0) fully searchable with additional software and reference material. Early Handbook orders will ship after October 1. Price is \$54.95 in hardcover, \$39.95 in softcover. Visit ARRL's on-line catalog <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=no-hb2006>

*Why do croutons come in airtight packages?
Aren't they just stale bread to begin with?*

Expedition 11 Commander Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, became the human with the most cumulative time in space early Aug.16. At 1:44 AM EDT (0544 UTC) surpassing the record of 748 days held by Sergei Avdeyev. Krikalev is scheduled to remain aboard the ISS until October.

Krikalev spent his more than two years in space beginning in November 1988 with the start of his first long-duration flight to the Soviet space station Mir. Krikalev did back-to-back increments on his next Mir flight starting in May 1991 and returning to Earth in March 1992. While he was in orbit, the Soviet Union disintegrated and Mir became a Russian space station.

He became the first Russian to fly a Shuttle mission on STS-60 in February 1994. His second Shuttle flight took the Unity node to the International Space Station on STS-88 in December 1998. He was a member of the Station's Expedition 1 crew, launching in October 2000 and returning to Earth in March 2001. He launched as commander of Expedition 11 last April 14.

courtesy of AMSAT-NA via Wayne,
VE1WPH

*I've learned that the people you care most
about in life are taken from you too soon and
all the less important ones just never go away.
And the real pains in the ass are permanent*

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the General Monthly
Meeting of Wednesday,
June 15th, 2005**

President Bill (VE1MR) called the meeting to order at 1930 with 31 members present.

Executive in attendance:

Bill Elliott (VE1MR) – President;; Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) – First Vice-president;; Second Vice-president – Darryl Perrin (VE1HUP); Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) – Secretary; Pat Kavanaugh (VE1PHK) – Station Manager; Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) – Member-at-Large; and Dick Grantham (VE1AI) Past-president.

Silent Keys: None

Guests: VE3PTO – Brian has recently moved back to Bedford from Pickering Ontario.

Minutes of the monthly meeting of May 18th, 2005: - MOTION - Approval of the minutes of the May monthly meeting as published in the June 2005 Reflector was moved by Tom (VE1TA) and seconded by Jim (VE1SFX) –Motion carried.

Executive Reports:

Treasurer – Fraser (VE1WO) reported on behalf of John (VE1CDD) who was absent. Fraser reported a May month-end bank balance of \$11,713.26. A hard copy of the report is appended to the hard copy of these minutes. Three over-budgeted items were identified – IRLP Expenses (\$179.57 budgeted \$175.00); Subscriptions (\$204.48 budgeted \$200.00); Interest Income (\$1,826.80 budgeted \$2000.00). Howard (VE1DHD) commented that our higher interest bearing GICs were coming due and are having to be rolled over into GICs that are currently giving lower interest rates than was the case five years ago.

MOTION – acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was moved by Jim (VE1JIM) and seconded by Murray (VE1MMD). Motion carried.

Secretary – Howard (VE1DHD) reported on the first QSL card print run

and outlined for the membership the fact that the Club was planning to run a QSL card design and printing service for members and others in the region. The cost for 1000 full-colour cards will be \$120.00 including tax. The Club has also printed up 1000 "Generic" QSL cards that members can purchase for the price of \$2.50 for 10 cards. These are much more expensive but will serve those who only QSL occasionally.

President – No specific report.

First Vice-president – Fraser (VE1WO) reported Flea Market Sales of Callbooks had been reasonably good, with 14 books sold, bringing the total sales for the 2004 Callbook to 973. The HARC Table also sold 3 renewal memberships and one new membership, as well as clearing over \$1000 in the sale of used equipment.

Second Vice-president – Darryl (VE1HUP) informed the membership that there would be no entertainment; rather there would be a planning session for Field Day. The door prize for the evening is a heat gun.

Station Manager - Pat (VE1PHK) had nothing specific to report.

Member-at-Large – Tom (VE1GTC) had nothing specific to report.

Past-president – Dick (VE1AI) arrived late and was not present to present his report.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Tom (VE1GTC) reported that as of 15 June 2005, there are 153 paid-up members for 2005 (123 Full / 28 Associate / 2 Life). This represents the largest membership in recent years.

Search & Rescue – Dave (VE1AJP) reported one search that ended happily with the individual being found in good shape.

EMO – Dave (VE1AJP) reported that he is in the process of developing an amateur radio orientation document for the hospital EMO ra-

dio facilities to ensure that all sites are equipped with appropriate AC line power and outside 2-metre antennas. Radio Amateurs that are assigned to Metro hospitals in an emergency would only have to provide a base station and power supply in order to be operational.

Dave (VE1EDA) reported that the Province has committed to maintaining the sites for the Provincial VHF/UHF linking system, but that they will remove the Microwave Links in July. Tom (VE1TA) pointed out that this is good news for those Amateur Radio Repeaters that are located at the linking sites.

Flea Market 2005 – attendance for the event was 330 attendees (down from previous years); 75 tables used (14 by the two commercial exhibitors – ALQ and MacFarlane) / 15 by clubs and 46 by individual sellers).

Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary S&R Competition – it was reported that the callsign VA1ISAR has been approved by Industry Canada for this two-day event. There will be a full write-up on the event in the next QST magazine.

Old Business: There was none.

New Business:

Earl Kelly Estate Sale – President Bill reported that the Executive had "reluctantly" agreed to assist the Estate in the sale of Earl's equipment, but in fact this had turned into an opportunity for the Club to purchase, at a very attractive price, two of Earl's radios – Yaesu FT-1000 (\$1500) HF radio and an ICOM IC-275H – 2 metre base station with power supply and desk microphone (\$550). The former will become the main Club HF radio and the current FT-990 will move to the secondary HF radio position in the Club Station. The 2-meter radio will become the satellite radio. The Club sold the current satellite radio (ICOM IC-251A) at the Flea Market. The sale of other donated equipment at the Flea Market – total of \$1779 - meant that the Club is only \$271 short of breaking even on

(Continued on page 7)

(Minutes Continued from page 6)

this deal that will see our Club station extremely well equipped for DX and Contesting – two of our current Club priorities.

Bill pointed out that this opportunity arose very recently and the Executive had to act quickly. However the membership was now being asked to ratify the decision of the Executive.

MOTION – Tom (VE1TA) moved that the membership ratify the actions taken by the Club Executive to purchase and sell equipment as outlined above. The motion was seconded by Jim (VE1JIM). There was some positive discussion. The motion Carried.

Club Crests – Tom (VE1GTC) informed the membership that he had gotten a good price on the production of Club Crests. The cost for 100 crests would be \$275.00, but we will not have to pay for any artwork and the computer file that is generated to produce the crests will be the property of HARC. This is a long-term fund-generating project with crests sales turning a profit of approximately \$2.50 per crest.

MOTION – Tom (VE1GTC) moved that the Club purchase 100 crests for resale to members. This motion was seconded by Murray (VE1MMD). Motion Carried.

Reports & Announcements:

DX Forum 2005 – Scott (VE1QD) reported to the membership that planning for the upcoming DX Forum on August 6th at Nautel Electronics in Glenn Margaret was proceeding well. There will be two key-note speakers in the morning – James Latham (TI2DU) from Costa Rica – Jim is the Chief Engineer for Radio For Peace International in Ciudad Colon; and, Ed Hammond (WN1I) from Cushcraft Corporation in New Hampshire. In the afternoon there will be a tour of Nautel – a world-class manufacturer of AM and FM (analogue and digital) commercial radio transmitters and airport navigation beacons, followed by a panel discussion on "The Challenges and Joys of Award Chasing, Contesting and DXpeditions.

The event will conclude with a BBQ at Scott's home. A full description of the DX Forum is appended to the electronic version of this report. Commercial sponsors include: Nautel (providing facilities and tour); Cushcraft (providing speaker and one of their new, MA6V Six-Band Restricted-Space Vertical Antennas as a Door Prize); Elecraft – providing a deep discount on the purchase of one of their radios.

LCARC Steak & Salmon Supper – Tom (VE1TA) announced that the Lunenburg Amateur Radio Club will once again hold a Steak and Salmon Supper at the Michelin Social Club in Bridgewater on Sunday August 28th 2005. All are encouraged to attend this wonderful social and food event. Reservations can be made by contacting Al Cyples (VE1CY@RAC.ca).

Door Prize – a head gun was won by Helen (VE1HMR).

50:50 Draw – the draw (\$25.00) was won by Spud (VE1BC).

There was a 15-minute social and refreshment break in the meeting at 20:14, followed by a planning session for Field Day.

Field Day Planning –

It was agreed that:

1. Packing Equipment: The Executive and others will meet at the Club Station on Wednesday June 22nd at 1900 hrs to pack the containers for Field Day and bring the beams, coax, rope and stakes down from storage to the Club Station.

2. Transporting Equipment to Field Day Site – Fraser and others who volunteered will meet at the Club Station on Friday June 24th at 1300 hrs to load vehicles and transport equipment to the EMO in Dartmouth. Set up to commence at 1600 hrs.

3. Field Day Message – Pierre (VE1PTR) agreed to copy the ARRL Field Day message for the Club.

4. Section Manager Message – Howard (VE1DHD) agreed to send the Section Manager, Hugh Clark

(VE9HC) the Club Section Manager Message for bonus points.

5. Demonstrations - Bob (VE1PQ) agreed to organize demonstrations on – APRS; Packet; and Slow-scan TV.

6. Publicity - need to confirm that Wayne (VE1WPH) is going to do the publicity.

7. Safety – Pat (VE1PHK) and Terry (VE1TRB) to be the two on-site safety officers for Field Day.

8. Dartmouth Club Station – Howard agreed to contact Leo (VE1LS) concerning the use of the Dartmouth Club Station for the Field Day GOTA station.

9. ARRL Submission - Jason (VE1PLI) agreed to assist Bill (VE1MR) in making this electronic submission.

On a motion to adjourn by Pierre (VE1PTR) at 2133 hrs, the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted by: Howard Dickson – VE1DHD, Secretary



Answer to puzzler on page 1

Charles Babbage is credited with many unrelated inventions, the most interesting of which is the cowcatcher on a locomotive.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 12
The Norwegian Post and Telecommunication Authority has granted permission to Norwegian Amateur Radio club stations to operate on eight 60-meter spot frequencies from April 1, 2005, until Dec. 31, 2007, on a non-interference-basis. Permissible modes are upper sideband and CW with a maximum transmitter power of 100 W. The channel center frequencies 5280, 5290, 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373, 5400 and 5405 kHz (the USB "dial frequency" would be 1.5 kHz lower for each channel).--RSGB via NRRL HF Traffic Manager Tom Segalstad, LA4LN

"Some people say that cats are sneaky, evil, and cruel. True, and they have many other fine qualities as well." -- Missy Dizick

From the Mail Bag

Subject: Thank you to the team
 Tue, 9 Aug 2005 02:15:28 -0300
 To: "WAYNE HARASIMOVITCH"
 Please pass this onto all the ISS/STS
 comms team.

I'm packing it in tonight as I spent last night monitoring and worked a full day today. But I wanted to send you guys an e-mail to send my continued thanks for your efforts.

I am a child of the space program. One of my first memories was watching Apollo 17 with my dad and younger brother. Even then, I felt somehow the inspiration of watching something that was truly awesome. Later I fell in love with science, aeronautics and astronomy. Although I feel my calling was elsewhere (either by the accident of circumstance or design, or both) I continue to pursue that passion through my hobbies and, in my own way, continue to live my dream.

Some would say space exploration is a luxury, a waste of resources in a time when millions go hungry and our own consumption is changing the very nature of the planet. I say that, in a world where people blow themselves up on crowded subways and crash aircraft into buildings, we need the hopes, dreams and human challenges of space exploration even more. The mission and crew of STS-114 is a vivid demonstration of the good of the human spirit. We listened and watched these people do things that no human has ever attempted. As I watched I became that five year old again on his dad's shoulders, looking at the moon. Even the technology that has brought the audio to the amateur radio community in Halifax is a testament to the same ingenuity and drive that allows us to explore the universe.

To your team, I say thank you for your hard work and technical know how to make this a success. I look forward to HARC's continued involvement in the space program.

73 de VE1JMA, Craig

I am pleased to announce that three MCC members have won certificates in the **Canadian Contest Championship for 2004**.

VE1RGB won Low Power for Nova Scotia VE1AI won High Power for Nova Scotia VE9DX won Low Power for New Brunswick

CCC encompasses 17 contests throughout the year. Each contest counts equally with each of the others and the final score is the sum of the best 5 scores made by each operator.

The rules for 2006 will be posted on the MCC site shortly. There are no major changes from 2005. Since there are still several contests still to be run in 2005, there is still time for others to enter and do well for 2005. There were no winners from PEI since no operator from The Island entered four or more of the contests in 2004.

I also note with pleasure that the Maritime Contest Club is "mentioned in dispatches" on page 102 of the September issue of QST. We were fifth in the Medium Sized category of the Club Competition. They show 7 operators and I don't think my contribution to PJ7B is included in that total. I think we can climb even higher in this, if we can just get a few more operators on the air for even a short time.

We are moving up in the world! Great work.

John, VE1JS

From the RAC news desk: FYI, Sohail Anjum. VE3ITU.

Sweden's telecommunication regulatory agency PTS has taken steps to de-regulate Amateur Radio and essentially no longer requires a government license.

Effective last fall, the PTS turned over Amateur Radio operator certification to the Society of Swedish Radio Amateurs (SSA), that country's IARU member-society. Under the new regulatory regime, the SSA administers testing and issues operator certificates and call signs, which have SA prefixes and three-letter suffixes.

There's no longer a Morse code requirement for HF access.

Czech Republic has begun issuing Novice class licenses with OK9-prefix callsigns on 160, 80, 15 and 10 meters, power output of 10 W.

The Malta Communication Authority has extended HF privileges to "codeless" Class B licensees. Licensees in Malta still must pass a Morse code examination to operate CW on the HF bands". (Thanks to WIA News)

The Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications acted May 24 to relax Morse code requirements for Amateur Radio licensing, but it did not eliminate them altogether.

Effective Oct. 1, 2005, the MIC will reduce the requirements for First and 2nd Class licenses to 5 WPM--solid copy for 2 minutes. The previous code requirements for these licenses were 12 and 9 WPM respectively. The MIC will drop the Morse requirement, now 5 WPM, for the Third Class license.

-submitted by Joe Speroni, AH0A

Hi: On Sept. 17th and 18th the Waterfront Development Corp. is hosting a Heritage Festival of which the MMA is a part. For this we want to bring CSS Acadia to life by hosting various activities aboard the ship. We would very much like to have your radio club set up in the wireless room.

Derek Harrison

Emile, VE1ESP, is coordinating ham radio operator participation -ed.

SPACE SHUTTLE INTERNET INTEREST REACHES NEW HEIGHTS SUBMITTED BY ARTHUR N1ORC - AMSAT A/C #31468

Interest in NASA's flight of the Space Shuttle Discovery and STS-114 may have generated one of the largest live Web events in the history of the Internet. Tracking records for www.nasa.gov show more than 2.6 million visitors tuned into coverage at some point during the highly successful two-week mission. Internet users simultaneously watched approximately 435,000 webcast streams of NASA Television during the launch and nearly 400,000 during the Shuttle's landing on August 9th.

"The number of people coming to our Web site during this important flight shows incredible curiosity and interest," said Dean Acosta, deputy associate administrator for Public Affairs at NASA Headquarters in Washington. "If there's a 'Top 10' list of live Internet events, I believe NASA can claim three of the top spots. We're so excited that the world wants to be a part of our ongoing mission of exploration and discovery."

NASA's webcasts nearly quadrupled an agency record set in July during Deep Impact's encounter with Comet Tempel 1. During that mission, NASA sent out 118,000 webcast streams on July 4. In January 2004, the agency transmitted just under 50,000 streams for the Mars Exploration Rover landings.

During the Space Shuttle launch, NASA Portal Web traffic reached a new record of 200,000 pages per minute, with landing-related traffic close behind at 150,000 pages per minute. To put this into perspective, the new peak represents an equivalent rate of 9 billion page views per month.

"The mission provided us with both a challenge and an opportunity to provide a service at an unprecedented level for NASA," said Pat Dunnington, NASA's chief information officer. "We're encouraged by the growing interest in the agency's Internet presence and are constantly applying information technologies in ways that enable distribution of NASA's mission knowledge and exploration excitement to the widest possible audience."

For Discovery's launch, NASA's Return to Flight Web delivery sponsors, Yahoo! and Akamai, were sending data at more than 45 gigabits per second. During the entire Space Shuttle Discovery mission, 600 terabytes of information that would fill 120,000 DVDs, was delivered to the public.

"Akamai is pleased to have played a role in this exciting and historical event, and we wish to congratulate NASA for a job well done, so that viewers all across the globe were able to see it live on the Internet," said Keith E. Johnson, vice president of public sector, Akamai. "The growing consumption of news on the Internet like the Return to Flight Shuttle mission is just further proof that online activities are becoming part of the fabric of our daily lives."

The Space Shuttle Discovery returned home on August 9, 2005, after a 14-day, 5.8 million-mile journey.

The NASA Web portal is managed jointly by the Office of Public Affairs & the Chief Information Officer. eTouch Systems of Fremont, Calif., is the portal's prime contractor. The portal is hosted by VeriCenter of Houston. For more information about the STS-114 mission on the Internet, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/returntoflight>

For more information about Yahoo! visit: <http://www.yahoo.com>

For more information about Akamai, visit: <http://www.akamai.com>

For information about NASA and agency programs on the Web, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/home/index.html>

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 21 NEW MOTOROLA BPL TECHNOLOGY

The ARRL said it was encouraged to learn of Motorola's just-announced Powerline LV system--a BPL system that takes radio interference concerns into consideration from the outset. The Powerline LV system avoids using medium-voltage power lines and introduces broadband signals only on the low-voltage side of the power transformer, greatly reducing the system's radio interference potential.

"We know that medium-voltage power lines are no place for broadband energy, since there is overwhelming technical evidence that radio interference from BPL is unavoidable if MV lines are used," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. "By confining their Access BPL system to low-voltage lines and by adding hardware notch filters for additional protection to Amateur Radio frequency allocations, Motorola has addressed our interference concerns."

There's more information about Motorola's Powerline LV system

http://www.motorola.com/mediacenter/news/detailpf/0,,5519_5509_23,00.html

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, #33

The ARRL again cautions anyone selling Amateur Radio and related equipment via Radios On-Line or QST Ham Ads (or via on-line auction sites or other advertising media) to beware of so-called "advance fee fraud" (or 4-1-9) payment schemes <<http://www.secretservice.gov/alert419.shtml>> aimed at ripping you off. We continue to receive reports from ARRL members who have received responses to their ads from individuals offering to overpay for goods via bank check with instructions to deduct the cost of their item(s) from the overpayment (typically quite substantial) and return the "change" to the buyer or another individual. The "bank check" is bogus, however, and the seller ends up holding the bag. This is a well-known scam. There's additional information on the Scam Victims United Web site <<http://www.scamvictimsunited.com/>>. Remember: Transact carefully, and protect yourself from fraud!

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 25
June 24, 2005

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION FOCUS OF WORLD CONFERENCE

June 13-14 Tampere, Finland, hosted the 1st Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC 2005). Participants from 17 countries and representatives of all 3 International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) regions gathered to discuss and exchange information on the role of Amateur Radio in emergency communication. A conference statement summarized the value of Amateur Radio to emergency communication worldwide; the statement concluding "The Amateur Radio Service has the proven capabilities and capacities to serve the international community through its global network of infrastructure-independent stations. Such stations are not only most likely to withstand the physical impact of disasters, but their flexibility furthermore avoids the overload all public networks inevitably experience in the aftermath of disasters."

The statement also pointed to the Amateur Service as "an invaluable resource of skilled operators, trained and experienced in maintaining communications under the most adverse conditions." It further concluded that it's essential "to ensure that this resource can be fully utilized in the service of emergency and disaster response providers." Conferees agreed as well that the Amateur Service needs access to "appropriate portions of the shared and limited resource of the radio frequency spectrum."

The IARU has submitted the summary as an input document to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), set to take place in Tunisia this November.

Major topics included cooperation between radio amateurs and institutional emergency response providers

on the national level, and an exchange of experiences from recent events. Presentations showed how hams support emergency responders as skilled volunteer telecommunication operators as well as via their own global networks.

Conferees also talked over ways to improve and facilitate the work of emergency communication networks. Participants agreed on the desirability of establishing a "Center of Activity Frequency" for emergency traffic on 80, 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters. SRAL, the IARU member-society for Finland and the host of GAREC 2005 will forward a proposal to that effect to the IARU for its consideration. This could happen during the IARU Region 1 Conference this September. GAREC-2005 did not put forth specific center-of-activity frequencies, but the proposal did recommend calling them "The Tampere Frequencies."

Because of Tampere's association with the history of emergency and disaster communication, the city's name has become nearly synonymous with emergency telecommunication. Among signal events, an experts' conference there in 1991 adopted the Tampere Declaration on Disaster Communications. In 1998, the Intergovernmental Conference on Emergency Telecommunications (ICET-98) adopted the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations. Effective as of Jan. 8/05, the convention largely eliminates roadblocks to moving telecommunications personnel and equipment across international borders into and within disaster-stricken areas. Tampere has hosted several related conferences on emergency telecommunication. Plans are being discussed for a second global conference in 2006.

A GAREC 2005 summary is available on the IARU Web site
<<http://www.iaru.org/emergency/summary.html>> --IARU

Leonardo da Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time ... hence, multi-tasking was invented.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 24, No. 17 BRAZIL TO HOST NEXT WORLD RADIOSPORT TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Atilano de Oms, PY5EG, reports final rules for World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) 2006 participants are available on the WRTC 2006 Web site

<<http://www.wrtc2006.com/ingles/ruleswrtc2006Vfinal.pdf>>.

WRTC 2006 will take place July 7-10, 2006, in Southern Brazil. The Liga de Amadores de Radio Emissão (LABRE) and Araucária DX Group (GADX) are sponsoring the event.

Last held in Finland, July 2002, the WRTC is a competition among 2-person teams drawn from among the world's top Amateur Radio contest operators.

WRTC 2006 will bring the world's top operators together in a single geographical area to showcase Amateur Radio competition at its highest level. The on-the-air portion of the event is held in conjunction with the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) HF World Championship. WRTC stations all run 100 W and have comparably modest antenna systems, typically a dipole for the low bands and a triband Yagi for the higher bands. The idea is to emphasize each team's operating skills and minimize the variables associated with radio contesting. 2-person teams from all over the globe will compete for gold, silver & bronze medals.

The WRTC 2006 competition is open to everyone, competitor and spectator alike," said Oms Atilano, PY5EG of GDAX. "Everyone is invited to attend WRTC 2006."

The contesting duo, Jeff Steinman, N5TJ, & Dan Street, K1TO, took home the WRTC gold for the 3rd time in the 2002 event in Finland.

I'm not really grouchy, I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds, loud music, unruly kids, Michael Jackson, Toyota commercials, barking dogs, lawyers, politicians and a few other things I can't seem to recall right now.